Safe and Healthy Lives in Safe and Healthy Communities

Proposed *Rules and Regulations for Licensing Nursing Facilities (R23-17-NF)*Community Review Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 25, 2006

Persons in Attendance: See attached sign-in sheets.

The meeting was convened at 10:10 a.m. by Raymond Rusin, Chief of the Office of Facilities Regulation, who provided introductions and an overview of the statute and the rule-making process.

Generally, these proposed regulations incorporate the provisions of Public Laws 05-157, 05-158, and 05-248 enacted in July 2005. Additional new language is proposed related to the use of "resident attendants" for assistance with residents' eating and hydration. A summary of proposed changes is available, for reference, upon request.

The following sections of the proposed nursing facility regulations were discussed: 1.9; 3.5; 10.3; 14.12 (e); 14.14; 16.1; 21.2; 24.5; 24.6; 37.2(k); 37.7; 37.8; Appendix "E"; Appendix "F."

Some of the issues/suggestions raised by the group include the following:

- Should "medication technicians" be included in the listing of health personnel in section 1.9;
- Section 3.5 on financial resources is vague and should be made more specific;
- Section 10.3 regarding the annual evaluation of the administrator is already covered in section 14.12 (e). Who performs the evaluation on the administrator if the facility is owned by the same administrator?
- Section 14.14 should be clarified to indicate who needs a photo identification card;
- What is the basis for section 21.2 related to a plan for resident wandering?
- Could the 5-year timeframe in section 24.5 be scaled back to three (3) years?
- Section 24.6 on quarterly staff reports should be eliminated.
- Could section 37.7 related to the facility's disaster plan reference "significant incidents" only?
- Facilities do not want to take the lead in crafting the memoranda of agreement required by section 37.7. Language is suggested to read: "Every nursing facility shall agree to enter into a memorandum of agreement..."
- Appendix "A" is too complicated and should be streamlined;
- Appendix "F" related to quarterly staffing reports should be eliminated along with related sections.

Mr. Rusin indicated that all of the issues raised by the group related to these proposed regulations would go back to staff for further discussion, review, and re-drafting. A public hearing will be scheduled for sometime in the summer of 2006.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Shelov, MPH, MSSW Health Policy Analyst Office of Health Services Regulation June 5, 2006